

The Democratic Standard.

DEVOTED TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS—THE DIFFUSION OF GENERAL INTELLIGENCE—AND THE REFORM OF ALL POLITICAL ABUSES.

BY D. P. PALMER.

GEORGETOWN, O., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1840.

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FOREIGN NEWS.

From the New York Morning Herald.

The Royal Mail steamship, Arcadia, Capt. Miller, arrived at Boston on Saturday morning, very early, and reached her dock at half past eight o'clock, making the run in the space of 12½ days, from Liverpool, 31 hours from Halifax, and 10 days 17 hours from Liverpool to Halifax. She had 92 passengers to Halifax, and 72 to Boston. We received our letters and papers by Harnden's Express this morning, and issued our first Extra at seven o'clock this morning.

The President arrived at this port this morning at ten o'clock, and by the politeness of Capt. Keene, we received our papers and letters in great abundance at the same hours. This steamer brings out 145 passengers.

The news is of greater importance than any that we have had from Europe for years. Every thing wears the aspect of a general, a long, and a bloody war, throughout Europe and Asia, although many of the English journals insist upon it, that the preliminary fighting in the East will strengthen the prospects of peace.

The substance of the news is this.—As soon as the advanced division of the English fleet reached the Chinese seas, they went to work and battered down all the forts at the Bocca Tigris, and up the Canton river. They then landed a force and sent it up to Canton to destroy that place. The English fleet in the Mediterranean bombarded and nearly destroyed Beyrout, drove out the Egyptians, landed a force and took possession of it. It is also stated that Com. Napier has seized several Egyptian vessels, and that he has stopped all supplies from going to the coast. On the other hand the French have sent two line of battle ships and two war steamers to reinforce their Mediterranean fleet; and have ready at one port alone thirteen other large men-of-war, to send off. All this time it is said that the Turkish Government has refused the propositions of Mehemet Ali; that the latter has therefore resolved to succumb and accede to the terms of the Four Powers; and also that he is lying dangerously sick at Alexandria.

In France, an additional credit of 50,000,000 francs has been opened to pay the increased expenses of the navy and army. Louis Napoleon is still on his trial. Madame Laffarge has been found guilty, and sent to hard labor for life.

The war in Africa still continues.

The Princess Augusta is dead.

Captain Fayer has been dismissed from command of the President.

An attempt has been made to destroy the dockyards at Sheerness and at Plymouth. The line of battle ship Salverra, and the frigate Imogene, have been burnt.

The President steam ship left Liverpool Oct. 1st, in command of Capt. Keene, with 140 passengers.

Parliament was to be further prorogued to the 10th of November.

In commercial matters, there is some change. It is rumored that the Bank of England intends to increase its rate of interest to 6 per cent. This is not believed; exchanges are quiet. Consols fell, of course on receipt of the war news; they are down to 86. At one time there was a general panic in the London money market. The corn crops are very good; being nearly 25 per cent. over those of 1839. The importers of foreign corn have lost a large amount of money. There was an attempt in the cotton market, a week before the Arcadia sailed, to get up a speculation to raise the price of cotton, and they succeeded in raising it 1/4 of a penny, and were just able to sustain it at that mark up to the day of sailing.

HOLLAND.

ABDICATION OF THE KING OF HOLLAND.—The Amsterdam papers of Wednesday announce the abdication of the King of Holland in favor of his son. It appears that his Majesty communicated his intentions to his ministers before setting out the day before from the castle of Loo. A proclamation will be issued in a few days, informing his subjects of his resolution. The Handledand says that the King, having summoned

the prince and princess of Orange to Loo, communicated his intentions to them in the presence of his friend, Baron Fayer. He is said to have laid aside his crown, and retired to private life, for the purpose of accomplishing the union with a lady of his court, which encountered so much opposition from his subjects when first announced some twelve months ago.

From the Globe.

PHILADELPHIA ELECTIONS.

Extract from a letter from Philadelphia. The late elections have proved, beyond question, the sure and solid state of progressive Democracy. Four thousand six hundred votes for the Democratic candidates in the city, a majority of only twenty-six hundred for the Whig member of Congress, and no difference in Seagrave's vote from his unopposed colleague, together with Swift the Mayor, being twelve hundred votes behind his ticket, are unquestionable indications that a change is at hand, and not such a one as Webster will like. Brown's majority in Southland's district is, I believe, unprecedented. He was very active, able, and effective in the public canvass. Southward, Moyamensing, and other parts of this district, till lately much distracted, were healed with skill and complete success. Mr. Brown will be found an honest, eloquent, and industrious member of Congress.

But the most signal triumph is Ingersoll's in the third district, which his constant persistence has wholly revolutionized and rectified, so as to ensure its Democratic stability hereafter. His opponent was a popular man, a good stump speaker, busy, confident, yet careful, with the whole Conservative adhesion, and that of the Abolitionists.

McMichael answered the Abolition inquiries in a line of acquiescence, though he was formerly even furious and disorderly in hostility to the Abolitionists. Ingersoll answered in a temperate but decided argument against the policy of abolition by agitation from abroad, and repeated what he said in the reform convention—that a party Abolitionist is a traitor to the United States. Not stopping at that unreserved disapproval of their conduct, his answer superadded that if zeal wants a field for action, let it wage war against the bondage of banks. In this way Ingersoll without hesitation defined the position he intended to hold if elected, and without a word of compromise, declared his opposition to the Conservative and abolition parties. To the Whig party, in all their other tenets, of course he was opposed. The consequence is, that, target as he has been for three years for all the barbed arrows of the Philadelphia despicable aristocracy, which succeeded no doubt, by unheard of efforts, combinations and contrivances to deprive him of one or two hundred votes, yet his majority is the largest ever obtained in the district; and the same Northern Liberties, which were the theatre of Naylor's villainous majority of 1836, and in 1838, now give Ingersoll a majority of 474. As it was found he had to contend with such votes, his time and unremitting attention have been given throughout the canvass to organizing, disciplining, and bringing out the party not by public harangues at tumultuous assemblies, but in business meetings of the Wards. The result speaks for itself. The Northern Liberties and Spring Garden, perfectly organized, have both given Democratic majorities, instead of whigs, as they did till thus marshalled. Kensington, by far the strongest Democratic part of the district, imperfectly organized, has given a diminished Democratic majority. The other districts, not organized at all, but relying on mere public meetings, have given larger Whig majorities than ever before. Still the grand result is all that could be wished, and more than was to be expected. It seals the alleged frauds on which Naylor has held a festering seat for three sessions, with the impress of universal conviction. It settles the political character of the district for years to come. The two districts together, first and third, comprising the county, will give a majority of at least thirty-five hundred at the Presidential election. All the borough governments of the Northern Liberties and Spring Garden have been changed at the late election. The Badgers, Albrights, Cornfields, and so forth, are put out and put down. They did their utmost last Tuesday; but it would not do. Forewarned, forearmed, was the Democratic safeguard. Mr. Ingersoll stated, I understand, at the last public meeting, held the evening before the election, that fresh proof of the most flagitious frauds are forthcoming; such as will strike every man with astonishment.

A curiosity of the election was printed handbills given out from most of the Whig shop doors, and distributed at all the Democratic meetings, that Ingersoll has lately ordered a French coat from an American tailor in Paris, which was urged as an insult to our mechanics.

This and other such mean attacks, all tending to show that his enemies have nothing important to object, were incited with all the zeal of a better cause. But though these tailors, the Conservatives, the Abolitionists, and the Whigs, succeeded to cheat him out of some votes, they could not prevent his election by the largest majority ever given in the district.

From the Knickerbocker.

THE SEMINOLES.

BY WASHINGTON IRVING.

From the time of the chimerical cruises of Old Ponce de Leon in search of the Fountain of Youth; the arduous expedition of Pamphilo de Narvaez in quest of gold; and the chivalrous enterprise of Hernando de Soto, to discover and conquer a second Mexico, the natives of Florida have been continually subjected to the invasion and encroachments of white men. They have resisted them perseveringly but fruitlessly, and are now battling amidst swamps and morasses, for the last foothold of their native soil, with all the ferocity of despair. Can we wonder at the bitterness of a hostility that has been handed down from father to son, for upwards of three centuries, and exasperated by the wrongs and miseries of each succeeding generation? The very name of the savages with which we are fighting, betokens their fallen and hopeless condition. Formed of the wrecks of once powerful tribes, and driven from their ancient seats of prosperity and dominion, they are known by the name of the Seminoles, or "Wanderers."

Bartram who travelled through Florida in the latter part of the last century, speaks of passing through ancient Indian fields, now silent and deserted, overgrown with forests, orange groves, and rank vegetation, the site of the ancient Alachua, the capital of a famous and powerful tribe, who in days of old could assemble thousands at ball-play and other athletic exercises, over these then happy fields and green plains. "Almost every step we take," says he, "over these fertile heights, discovers the remains and traces of ancient human habitations and cultivation."

About the year 1763, when Florida was ceded by the Spaniards to the English, we are told that the Indians generally retired from the towns and the neighborhood of the whites, and burying themselves in the deep forests, intricate swamps and hammocks, and vast savannahs of the interior, devoted themselves to a pastoral life, and the rearing of horses and cattle. These are the people that received the name of the Seminoles, or Wanderers; which they still retain.

Bartram gives a pleasing picture of them at the time he visited them in their wilderness; where their distance from the abodes of the white man gave them a transient quiet and security. "This handful of people," says he, "possesses a vast territory, all East and a greater part of West Florida, which being naturally cut and divided into thousands of islets, knolls, and eminences, by the innumerable rivers, lakes swamps, vast savannahs, and ponds, form so many secure retreats and temporary dwelling places that effectually guard them from any sudden invasion or attacks from their enemies; and being such a swampy, hammocky country, furnishes such a plenty and variety of supplies for the nourishment of various animals, that I can venture to assert, that no part of the globe so abounds with wild game, or creatures fit for the food of man."

"Thus they enjoy a superabundance of the necessities and conveniences of life, with security of person and property, the two great concerns of mankind. The hides of deer, bears, tigers, and wolves, together with honey, wax, and other productions of the country, purchase their clothing, equipage, and domestic utensils from the whites. They seem to be free from want or desire. No cruel enemy to dread; nothing to give them disquietude; but the gradual encroachment of the white people. Thus contented and undisturbed, they appear as blithe and free as the birds of the air, and like them as voracious and active, tuneless and vociferous. The visage, action and deportment of the Seminoles form the most striking picture of happiness in this life; joy, contentment, love and friendship, without guile or affectation, seem inherent in them, or predominant in their vital principle, for it leaves them with but the last breath of life. They are fond of games and gambling, and amuse themselves like children, in relating extravagant stories, to cause surprise and mirth."

The same writer gives an engaging picture of his treatment by these savages: "Soon after entering the forest, we were met in the path by a small company of Indians, smiling and beckoning to us before we joined them. This was the family of Talahaschoche, who had been out on a hunt and were returning home loaded with barbecued meat, hides and honey. Their company consisted of the man, his wife and children, well mounted on fine horses, with a number of packhorses. The man offered us a fawnskin of honey, which I accepted, and at parting presented him with some fishhooks, sewing-needles, &c."

"On our return to camp in the evening, we were saluted by a party of young Indian warriors, who had pitched their tents on a green eminence near the lake, at a small distance from our camp, under a little grove of oaks and palms. This company consisted of seven young Seminoles, under the conduct of a young prince or chief of Talahaschoche, a town southward in the isthmus. They were all dressed and painted with singular elegance, and richly ornamented with silver plates, chains, &c., after the Seminole mode, with waving plumes of feathers on their crests. On our coming up to them, they arose and shook hands; we alighted and sat a while with them by their cheerful fire."

"The young prince informed our chief that he was in pursuit of a young fellow who had fled from the town, carrying off with him one of his favorite young wives. He said, merrily, he would have the ears of both of them before he returned. He was rather above the middle stature, and the most perfect human figure I ever saw; of an amiable, engaging countenance, air and deportment; free and familiar in conversation, yet retaining a becoming gracefulness and dignity. We arose took leave of them, and crossed a little vale, covered with a charming green turf, already illuminated by the soft light of the full moon."

"Soon after joining our companions at camp, our neighbors, the prince and his associates, paid us a visit. We treated them with the best fare we had, having till this time preserved our spirituous liquors. They left us with perfect cordiality and cheerfulness, wishing us a good repose and returned to their own camp. Having a band of music with them consisting of a drum, flutes, and a rattle gourd, they entertained us during the night with their music, vocal and instrumental."

"There is a languishing softness and melancholy air in the Indian convivial songs, especially of the amorous class, irresistibly moving attention, and exquisitely pleasing, especially in their solitary recesses, when all nature is silent."

Travellers who have been amongst them in more recent times, before they had embarked in their present desperate struggle, represent them in much the same light; as leading a pleasant, indolent life, in a climate that required little shelter or clothing, and where the spontaneous fruits of the earth furnished subsistence without toil. A cleanly race delighting in bathing, passing much of their time under the shade of their trees, with heaps of oranges and other fine fruits for their refreshment; talking, laughing, dancing and sleeping. Every chief had a fan hanging to his side, made of feathers of the wild turkey, the beautiful pink-colored crane, or the scarlet flamingo. With this he would sit and fan himself with great stateliness, while the young people danced before him. The women joined in the dances with the men, excepting the war dances. They wore strings of tortoise shells and pebbles round their legs, which rattled in cadence to the music. They were treated with more attention among the Seminoles than most Indian tribes.

MEXICO.

Inland Trade with Mexico.—Some account of the State of Chihuahua, one of the interior departments of Mexico, was recently communicated in a letter from a merchant of that country published in the Washington Globe. Chihuahua is rich in silver mines. During a period of four years, from 1824 to 1828, a single mine situated on the great chain of mountains to the east of the city of Chihuahua produced more than eleven millions of dollars in silver. But this was a rare product. At present from two to two and a half millions are obtained annually from the mines of this district, the greater portions of them being paralysed on account of the very high prices of quick silver. A large portion of the precious metal thus yielded is shipped from the ports of Mazatlan and Guaymas, on the Pacific ocean, in exchange for goods, brought from England; the rest is exported by the way of Matamoros or some other port on the Gulf of Mexico.

There are six chief mining towns in the department of Chihuahua, in which there are upwards of four hundred shafts of mines; the few that are now worked employ from 12,000 to 15,000 workmen. Their duration is said to be incalculable, and as the country is explored more and more new mines are discovered. It is the opinion of the writer

that the application of steam power to the working of the mines would greatly facilitate operations and render the business more profitable. The system of large companies, it is thought, would also be an important improvement in the mode of conducting the business, as at present the mines are mostly in the hands of men of limited means who are not able to undertake a large system of arrangements.

With regard to the trade of that region, some useful information is given, going to show that by an interior route from the State of Arkansas to Chihuahua, the mining districts of that department might be better supplied with goods than from the Ports of the Pacific. The annual consumption of Chihuahua does not fall short of three millions; the supplies come mostly from England, although the nearest sea port on the Pacific is six hundred miles distant, and the transportation is over a difficult country. The writer gives an account of an expedition which he undertook with two other merchants in April, 1833, with a caravan of five hundred mules and seven wagons, from Chihuahua to the frontier of Arkansas. He says:

"Without any track whatever, and trusting solely to chart and compass, with which we were provided, we expected to encounter some obstacles to the passage of carriages, and were prepared with iron instruments for the purpose of removing them. We feared that we should meet with water only at great distances, and that we and our animals would suffer greatly from thirst. What was our surprise, however, and with what pleasure did we see the road level, firm, and covered with pastures, with streams at distances of two, three and four miles, and regularly supplied with fords! Thus, sir, our new route is the best and shortest that we could desire between the two countries. We travelled generally from one water course to another, where we passed the night, apprehending that we might not meet another at a suitable distance. The greater part of our stages were from 3 to 10 miles and a few of 15. Accordingly we observed, that from Chihuahua to where we reached Red River, about 50 miles on the other side of Fort Coffee, cannot exceed six hundred miles, and consequently, eight hundred miles to Fort Smith or Van Buren, on the Arkansas."

"If the Government of the United States would grant the drawback on the merchandise which is exported by the new route, I have no doubt that the whole commerce of Chihuahua, in all its extension, would be made through that part of the United States; because they might be imported as far as Fort del Norte (a place of entry) in 40 or 50 days in wagons, at less expense than from Matamoros and from the ports of the Gulf of California, on mules. However, I am of the opinion that a great part of what is consumed by the States of Durango and Tlaxcala, not less than four or five millions, could be furnished them by the new road, at more moderate prices than that at which they obtain them through the same channel at Chihuahua, at second hand, loaded with large commissions, freights and great delays. So that this trade might assume an importance worthy of great consideration."

The cotton cloths imported into Mexico are equal in amount to one-half the value of all the imported merchandise used in that country; and it is stated that a preference would always be given to the cotton fabrics of the United States on account of their superiority to the English. These goods would constitute an important article of the inland trade. But in the opinion of the writer a drawback is necessary on commodities thus imported into Mexico, without which the traffic would not flourish to any thing like the extent which it would otherwise reach.

LIFE IN THE WEST.

On the 17th inst. three of our friends, two of whom are residents of long standing in this town, set out on a journey, on foot, to see the land of promise on the north of the Wisconsin. With knapsacks on their backs, two with guns, a third with an axe, and one with a violin in addition to his equipment, to enliven their encampment, they deemed themselves able and buoyant enough to reach the Pacific ocean. At Prairie du Chien they were joined by an acquaintance. At that town they found the sick to outnumber the well; and of the U. S. troops stationed there, one hundred were on the sick list. From thence they struck for the Kickapoo country, which they were told was the finest country in the world; abounding in bears, deer, rattlesnakes, and every thing else that was charming. They walked, in a north-east direction, from dawn till dark, finding the country nothing but a succession of sharp ridges and intervening hollows, nearly destitute of timber. At night they camped out; but instead of a delicious

slice of fat bear, or the sweet meat of a doe or fawn, they were fain to make a supper on a prairie chicken, a pheasant, and two pigeons—neither bears nor deer having been seen—the absence of the rattlesnakes was not regretted. On lying down to sleep one of the company expressed his fears of a visit from the painters; but another thought such a visit would give them an opportunity of having their likenesses taken—on explanation, it was understood that painters were more plentiful than painters in such places. One of the party waking in the night, and finding himself benumbed with the cold, found that his friend (who must have had the idea of the painter still in his head) had interposed himself between the said party and the fire! Now the idea of putting your friend between you and the painters is too much like politics; so the fire was renewed, places re-adjusted, and equal chances of being eaten up encountered. The next morning they resumed their journey, and two hours' walk brought them to an abandoned Indian village, delightfully situated in a bottom, containing about a quarter section of land, which was the only place they saw fit for a settlement. Having seen enough of the country, they concluded to return home by rafting down the Kickapoo. They made a good raft of fur logs, on which they embarked. The course of the river being very serpentine, they made but little progress in a direct line; and the river was so full of snags that one man was kept constantly at work with a pole in his hand, to guide the raft clear of obstructions. They found the Kickapoo a beautiful stream, about thirty feet wide, about fourteen deep in the shallowest places; and flowing between two ranges of mountains or bluffs from two to three hundred feet high. At night they encamped again, making a grand supper on two pigeons—half a bird a piece. Next morning—

"All hands unmor!" the voyagers loudly cry: "All hands unmor!" the caymen rocks reply.

Having no food they tried the good effects of the fiddle, which answered pretty well but not equal to coffee and beef-steak. Owing to the siren strains of the violin, or some other cause, the man with the pole allowed the raft to strike a snag, when the whole concern foundered—guns, teapot, tin cups, music-book, and two pair of boots, which two of them had taken off, sunk or floated off.

To scramble ashore, to make a fire, to fish up the two guns were easily accomplished; but to supply the loss of the boots was not so easy to the naked feet; so one took his knapsack and made a pair of moccasins, and the other his fiddle-case, which was merely a bit of painted linen for the same purpose. Hereafter, let no persons go to explore a new country without a fiddle, seeing the many useful purposes to which it may be applied. The first movement now was to ascend the steep and rocky bluff, strewn with sharp flints, which inflicted painful bruises on the unprotected feet of two of the party. A walk of a few miles brought them to a clearing, where they found a family, the lady of which extended to them that sympathy, which the absolutely fainting condition of some of them from the want of food rendered necessary. Here they found good comforts for the inner man, which their kind hostess spread before them, refusing all payment until it had been pressing offered to her.

They then directed their march to a ferry across the Wisconsin, and from thence took the road for Lancaster, lodging one night at a house by the way. Arrived at Lancaster, they were hospitably entertained, and furnished with such shoes and socks as their crippled condition enabled them to wear. The next night brought them to Platteville, having been absent eight days.

Here was a party of strong and hardy young men, one at least of whom is a thorough backwoodsman, going hardly more than a day's journey beyond the frontier settlements, and yet by a trifling accident were reduced to the situation of shipwrecked mariners. Their own account of their difficulties, of which this is a brief outline, has caused a deal of mirth in Platteville, and none seem to enjoy the laugh more than themselves.—Northern Badger; Platteville, Wisconsin.

"WHIG" CURRENCY.

The Baltimore Sun states the assets of the Patuxent Savings Institution as follows:—A counter, a desk, one or two stools or chairs, a piece of old mauling, a "long law" red box \$5,000 of the Western Trading Company of the State of Alabama, a fraudulent concern, bought at seven to ten per cent. on the dollar, and kept on the counter for show: \$150 to \$200 of the Bank of Rome, New York; broken, kept for the same purpose; \$5 in shipplasters, and a silver tip. The amount of issues outstanding is estimated at \$2 to \$10,000.